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R E M A R K S

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Claims 1-18 are pending in the present application after this amendment adds new claims 14-18. Claims 1, 4, 6, and 9 are amended by this amendment. No new matter is added by the amendments, which are supported throughout the specification and figures. It is respectfully submitted that the amendments and new claims do not raise new issues, do not require additional search, and/or simplify issues for appeal. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the amendments be entered. In view of the amendments and the following remarks, favorable reconsideration of this case is respectfully requested.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge receipt of the initialed USPTO form 1449, filed in the IDS of December 30, 2002, included with the Office Action of November 18, 2005. Applicants respectfully request an initialed copy of the USPTO form 1449, filed in the IDS of April 25, 2002, in the next communication from the Patent Office.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, and 9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,454,652 to Miyamoto et al. (hereinafter Miyamoto). Applicants respectfully traverse.

Claim 1 relates to a recording medium comprising a recorded program and data to be used in a program execution system including a program execution device that executes various programs. In amended claim 1, the recorded program has a direction maintenance step by which if, along with a motion of any character on the display device, based on an operation instruction about a character motion direction, a switching is made from a first scene to a second scene on the display device and the operation instruction is maintained, and *the direction of motion of the character in the second scene is determined by the*

operation instruction and the direction of motion of the character on a map in the first scene at least immediately before the switching is made.

The Examiner cites Miyamoto at column 47, line 15, to column 48, line 8, as disclosing the feature of the rejection of the amended claims that the direction of motion is maintained in a second scene as long as the operation instruction is maintained by a user. However, the section of Miyamoto apparently only discusses changing a viewing perspective, and does not discuss changing a scene. However, even assuming that a change of viewing position anticipates a scene change, it does not appear that Miyamoto discusses *the motion of a character simultaneous to the change of perspective*. Nor more particularly, Miyamoto does not disclose, or suggest, that a direction of motion of a character in a second scene is determined by an operation instruction *and* a direction of motion of the character on a map in a first scene at least immediately before the switching is made. Miyamoto apparently shows a character whose motion is controlled based solely on a user input, and not on both an operation instruction and a direction of motion in a scene prior to the current scene. Therefore, for at least this reason, claim 1 is allowable.

Claims 4, 6, and 9 recite a feature similar to that discussed above in regard to claim 1 and are therefore allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 1 is allowable.

Claim 2 depends from claim 1 and claim 7 depends from claim 6, and therefore these claims are allowable for at least the same reasons as their respective base claims are allowable.

Claims 3, 5, 8, and 10-13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Miyamoto. Applicants respectfully traverse.

Claim 3 relates to a recording medium comprising a program and data recorded thereon and which are to be used in a program execution system including a program execution device that executes various programs. Claim 3 includes, *inter alia*, a second computation step which, if a current operation instruction is maintained after the switching step, *determines, from the motion vector of the any character by the operation instruction as seen from the previous viewpoint, at least the position coordinates of the character.*

Such a limitation is not disclosed by Miyamoto. At col. 37, lines 35-42, Miyamoto by way of the tower camera mode, depicted in Fig. 23A, appears to disclose two camera views that capture Mario as he moves from a first position to a second position. Miyamoto is silent as to whether continued operation instruction after the camera change, i.e. view change, will continue the operation instruction after the scene changes. Since Miyamoto does not disclose or suggest that the motion of the character after the switching step is determined by the operation instruction as seen from the previous viewpoint, Miyamoto does not render claim 3 unpatentable.

Claims 5, 8, 10, and 11 recite a feature similar to that discussed above in regard to claim 3 and are therefore allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 3 is allowable.

Claim 12 depends from claim 11 and is therefore allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 11 is allowable.

Claim 13 relates to a program execution system in which, among other things, if an operation instruction is maintained during a switch from the first display device viewpoint to the second display device viewpoint, *the second motion vector governing movement of the character in the second display device viewpoint is controlled in*

accordance with the first movement coordinate system, such that movement of the character is consistent between first and second display device viewpoints while the operation instruction is maintained during and immediately after the switch between the viewpoints.

It is respectfully submitted that Miyamoto does not disclose or suggest this feature, and therefore claim 13 is allowable over the reference.

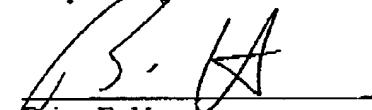
New claims 14-16 depend from claim 1 and are therefore allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 1 is allowable.

New claim 16 depends from claim 4, new claim 17 depends from claim 6, and new claim 18 depends from claim 9, and therefore each of these claims is allowable for at least the same reasons as their respective base claims are allowable.

In view of the remarks set forth above, this application is believed to be in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested. However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged on Deposit Account 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,



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